NBMC Under National Social Assistance Programme in Maharashtra

3386. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing National Maternity Benefit Scheme under National Social Assistance Programme in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of beneficiaries under the scheme in the State during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(d) the assistance being provided by State Government in implementing the scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMES) under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a Centrally Sponsored Programme in the area of poverty alleviaion both in rural and urban area. Under this scheme 100% Central Assistance is extended to the State/UTs to provide benefits in accordance with the norms, guidelines and conditions laid down by the Central Govt. The Programme came into effect from 15.8.1995. Under the NMES, benefit is provided as a lumpsum cash assistance to woman of households below poverty lines subject to the following conditions:—

(i) The Maternity benefit is restricted to pregnent women for upto the last two live births provided they are 9 years of age and above.

(ii) The beneficiary belongs to a household below poverty line as per criteria prescribed by Govt. of India.

(iii) Amount of benefit is Rs. 300/-

(c) During 1995-96, the State of Maharashtra was released the 1st instalment only amounting to Rs. 361.76 lakhs out of total all amount of Rs. 735.62 lakhs. The State Government has reported utilisation of Rs. 0.89 lakh only so far out of the 1st instalment giving benefit to only 276 beneficiaries. The district-wise position in this regard is as the following:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Distt.	Scheme	Ad. Exp.	Total
Dhule	0.77	0.05	0.82
Yavatamal	0.06	0.01	0.07
	0.83	0.06	0.89

No expenditure has been reported in the other 29 districts.

(d) It may be mentioned that NSAP and as such the NMBS is implemented through the State Govts./UTs. The State Governments give adequate publicity to the Schemes, progress the applications, sanction cases and disburse benefits though their district level functionaries involving Panchayats/Municipalities, State of Maharashtra also carry out all those functions.

Foreign Equity Participation

3387. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to expand the list of industries for allowing in more than 51 per cent foreign equity in new areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to revise the definition of small scale industry, enhancing their investment limit and enabling foreign investors to invest in euqity capital; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The necessary details are being worked out.

(c) and (d) As regard revision of the definition of small scale industries and enhancing the investment limit for SSI etc., an Expert Committee on Small Enterprises has been set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. Abid Hussain (former member, Planning Commission) in order to examine the promotion and protective policies relating to the small scale sector and their related aspects. The recommendations of the Committee are yet to be received. At present there is no proposal for raising the equity participation from the existing 24% by large units (either domestic or foreign) in a small scale industrial unit.

Working of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics

3388. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recent assessment has been done about the working of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics;

(b) the substantial work recently done by this Directorate;

(c) how has this work helped in boosting our internal and external commerce; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the efficiency of this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) DGCI&S, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Commerce, is the official nodal agency responsible for collection, compilation & dissemination of data on India's foreign trade. The statistics provided by DGCI&S are used by the Ministry of Commerce to monitor and review the effect of the Import Export Policy and is also used by other national and international agencies & private entrepreneurs for various purposes. The statistics help the Govt. to identify trends, monitor balance of trade and to make changes in the policy to enable marketing of Indian goods in the competitive world trade environment.

No recent assessment has been done about the working of the office of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

Industrial Dispute Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts without Presiding Officers

3389. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial dispute tribunals-cum-labour courts in Delhi are without any presiding officers and on a public litigation the Supreme Court had directed the filing up of the vacancies in the industrial disputes tribunals without delay;

(b) if so, the reasons for not filling up the posts of presiding officers in the industrial disputes tribunalas-cum-labour courts;

(c) the number of cases pending in these tribunals, and since when; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to dispose of those cases speedily to make the litigation cheaper and speedier?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) On the basis of the information received from Govt. of NCT of Delhi, a statement is enclosed.

Statement

(a) There are 3 (Three) Industrial Tibunals and 10 (Ten) Labour Courts in Delhi. Presiding Officers of 3 (Three) Labour Courts have been repatriated to their parent cadre on the request of the High Court of Delhi and their work has